

## CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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The sweet girl graduate has offered her contribution to the winning of the war.

The sharks and sea serpents have now bid the headlines a fond farewell.

Germans are now accused of stripping the clothes off their dead before burial.

Uncle Sam has just enrolled something like 1,000,000 new recruits for his army.

Knoxville never knew how much it loved water until the pumps went dry or a few days.

Excursion tickets to the seaside resorts and bathing beaches are going along with baseball.

And now, because of our rudeness, we may be dropped from the calling list of baronesses.

That "lightning training" of the American troops is not nearly so funny now as it was.

The cotton crop also appears to have been infected with the "going over the top" toxin.

Chicago has on trial its twenty-fifth woman charged with murder. The other twenty-four were acquitted.

The exactions of the draft law have put somewhat of a crimp in the record of June as the month of brides.

Attention is again directed to the fact that there have been no strikes among Uncle Sam's \$20-a-month soldiers.

F. Handley Page, airplane expert, thinks there is a good deal of hot air in those projected trans-oceanic air trips.

The National league announces that it will stay until the end of the season if there is nothing left at the finish but the running gear.

America's minister to Denmark has resigned. Here's an opportunity for some democrat who is too old for the draft to serve his country.

An exchange insinuates that while the boches have been crossing several rivers in France, large numbers of them have crossed the River Styx.

With as much as there is going on elsewhere, the correspondent who starts a counter-revolution in Russia now is exceeding the speed limit.

Senator Owen lets it be known that he doesn't like to have federal courts fooling with acts of congress. The habit, however, is pretty well established.

A total eclipse of the sun next Saturday will miss Chattanooga by a scratch. With proper inducements, it might have been persuaded to pass this way.

Great Britain declares that "the food line" must be held at all hazards. If it should be severed, the lines in France and Flanders would crumble over night.

It is extremely doubtful whether the people would approve an extension of the franking privilege even for the purpose of mailing out Confederate pension checks.

Whisky is disappearing from the world's markets—Headline. Some of it—or rather some of the bottles—seems to find concealment in the congressional office building.

It has been suggested that increasing passenger fares may help in reducing the congestion of railroad traffic. Likewise in promoting the love of "Home, Sweet Home."

Gen. Kennerly makes it known that the government is not seeking the assistance of mobs to punish disloyalty. A mob's definition of loyalty is not always discriminating, anyway.

In urging the utility of the goat the Knoxville Journal and Tribune remarks: "Billy is a strong factor in utilized in the production of meat." Might also function as a defense against German gas attacks.

The News has no more interest in controversies among the commissioners than other citizens. It has taken none of them under its wings. But it is ambitious to furnish the community facilities for finding out what is going on in the conduct of their affairs.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

A few days ago our attention was attracted to a story in one of the Knoxville papers wherein Mrs. C. A. Perkins, president of the school board of that city, urged the adoption of medical inspection for the schools. Reading along, we soon discovered that the innovation did not contemplate simply a superficial examination for the detection of communicable diseases, but involved a general diagnosis and follow-up treatment either by physicians or trained nurses, or perhaps both.

And that set us to thinking. We have frequently observed and remarked upon the rapid progress of socialism and paternalism, but we must confess the gait is sometimes too fast for us. Handicapped as we are by our old-time notions, we are finding it difficult to keep up with the procession, try as we may. We are often forced to drop out of the ranks to recover our equilibrium, the while wondering what will be next.

The public school is perhaps America's greatest institution. It is a veritable nursery of democracy. Why can it not be left to us as a place and a means of teaching our children some of the duties of intelligent citizenship without the entire elimination of parental proprietorship and responsibility? Is individuality to be fully obliterated? Is parenthood to be flouted and tolerated merely as a necessary evil? Is a German machine to be devised whereby the state takes over our children at birth and molds them according to the regulation model?

Answering these last questions in the affirmative, where is the money to come from? Tax rates are mounting higher and school budgets are being overdrawn nearly everywhere. Yet expensive fads continue to multiply. Free textbooks are urged upon us; in some instances free clothing, and now free medical inspection, attendance and treatment. Where is it all to end? Is the government presently to furnish us free apartments, give us our baths and put us to bed at night, and wash our faces and dress us on our awakening in the morning?

As intimated, the public school is a proud American heritage. It should be nurtured, cultivated and made more efficient. But there are some things it may never do well. It ought not to undertake to absorb the parents' proprietorship in and responsibility for their children. It ought to aid, but never supplant. Our children are our dearest possession—sometimes about our only possession. We beg that we be still allowed an interest in them.

## "LEGALIZING BIGAMY."

"A Bill for Legalizing Bigamy" was the description supplied by the dean of the Lincoln to the new divorce bill, at the Caxton hall, London. Had the New Testament never been written, marriage would still be more than a contract, he said, because it was a natural relation as indissoluble as kinship."—London Daily Mail.

It appears from the foregoing that others besides Germans are willing to adopt constructive bigamy under the guise of national necessity. It is comforting, however, to observe how readily churchmen of England challenge the revolting suggestion. It conveys a sidelight on how the wholesome, old-fashioned moral standards are clunked by the English clergy and people.

According to the German philosophy, the state is everything. Individual equals are not to be considered as against the demands of the state. But in England, as in America, the citizen is the unit which goes into the making of the composite state. The English-American idea is that the state exists for the service it can perform for the individual citizen. In Germany, the individual subject exists for the benefit of the state.

It follows, as a consequence, that the present war is one of conflicting ideas and ideals as much as of peoples. It is, in very truth, a war of democracy against autocracy. In Germany, the state is everything and the Kaiser is the state. In a democracy, the people are supreme. They make their own choice of those who temporarily administer the government.

Talk of compelling the telephone company to lower its rates probably is not seriously meant. It is true the service is not as good as it was before the war. We must remember that the company has been strained by the increased demand for connections because of the camp here. Then it has suffered the same sort of disturbance in organization, due to the shortage of labor, that other large corporations and industries have suffered. No doubt the service is susceptible of improvement, even under the present difficulties, but the above is said in order that we shall not be too critical. As for reducing rates public service corporations would be done a serious injustice if such were now insisted on. All of them are suffering from a lack of surplus of revenues over expenditures, which latter have increased greatly. Let us think of service first.

A photograph of twenty-six empty quart bottles, taken by a representative of the Washington Times on the fourth floor of the congressional office building, caused something of a flurry and threats of an investigation. We can imagine, however, that a congressional investigation of bottles that are empty would lack interest and zest. The blindest part of the joke is, perhaps, on the Times which parades the incident as an argument against prohibition. Also, it is charged in congress that the find was a "plant."

Uncle Sam's boys are more than matches for the Huns on land, on sea and in the air. And they are preparing to go after such as burrow into the depths of the ocean. To be entirely secure the boche will have to get to the earth.

## THE OVERMAN BILL.

An eastern newspaper does not know what has become of the Overman law. It has been watching for some signs of the reorganization of the cabinet and other departments of governmental activity, but has not been able to discover any. It has almost arrived at the conclusion that most of the changes thought necessary were consummated either before or while congress was discussing the proposed legislation. And, truth to tell, such reorganization as has been effected since the measure was passed has not been of a very radical nature.

One of the contentions against the Overman bill at the time of its consideration was that it was unnecessary and superfluous—that the president already had the power sought to be acquired under it. It is probable that at the president reasoned that the exercise of such authority would provoke less of censure if there was some sort of legislative warrant for it. It was freedom of action to take such steps from time to time, as the emergencies of the war situation might seem to require, that prompted him to ask of congress this grant of paramount authority and power.

The newspaper referred to notes, as have many others, that there have been several potential extensions of the cabinet. While the personnel of the cabinet provided by legal enactment remains at ten members, it is pointed out that Mr. Stettinius is practically secretary of munitions, Mr. Haruch secretary of industry, Mr. Schwab secretary of shipbuilding, Mr. Ryan secretary of aviation, Gen. Goethals secretary of army supplies, Mr. Garfield secretary of fuel supplies and Mr. Hoover secretary of food supplies. The implication that these gentlemen are virtually cabinet ministers is based on the fact that they are largely responsible to the president only and may be consulted in similar fashion to the cabinet.

It has frequently been suggested that the government was seeking the centralization of too much power in its hands, but the more extreme of the ordinances complained of are limited, we believe, to the duration of the war. The people are greatly interested in achieving results—much more than in the methods employed. Where greater power is bestowed the responsibility is increased in a corresponding ratio. In a government like ours it is almost inevitable that inefficient and misfits will get into position in a time of peace. But war turns the spotlight on them that they may be weeded out. Everything that the president has asked has been granted. The people are now looking to him as their leader. The progress of the war is, to a very large extent, in his hands.

## ANOTHER NON-ESSENTIAL.

In the course of a lecture on "Non-Essentials," a Louisville Rotarian mentioned horse racing as one which has several inexcusable aspects. The employment of men in the handling and transportation of horses for this purpose deprives useful and productive industry of just that much manpower. And, so far as benefits to society are concerned, this expenditure is "all going out and nothing coming in." It also stimulates the habit of gambling, which is a waste of money, even if it involved no moral turpitude. On this point the Louisville Post declares:

"The expenditure of money in gambling on horse racing at any time is a non-essential expenditure; its detrimental character has been pointed out too often to demand repetition. But when a nation is at war such expenditure becomes not only ill-advised for the individual, but doubly injurious to the nation as a whole."

It ought to require little argument for have racing listed among the enterprises which do not contribute to the winning of the war. There are plenty of other interesting things to occupy our time and attention. And gambling is about as useful as the manufacture of beer!

Perhaps as never before the war has brought home to us what a close bond of sympathy there is between morality and economy. Nearly every sinful, injurious habit is wasteful, and every wasteful habit is sinful. Moral and economic conservation are equally important duties.

## HELP IN THE HARVEST.

Readers will remember that it was suggested in these columns a few days ago that labor and business organizations in the cities might co-operate with the farmers in harvesting the crops, with advantage. The following paragraph, clipped from Campbell's Weekly, confirms the views expressed and shows what is being done in Kansas:

"The union labor organizations of Topeka have pledged themselves to supply 5,000 of 6,446 men that the state farm labor director has set as Topeka's quota for work in the harvest fields during a minimum of ten days. Kansas towns are short of labor, too, and the employers who will release these men also show a fine spirit of patriotism."

In our old-time plethora of production and labor supply little attention was paid to co-operation among the various lines of industry or the conservation of any asset or product. Now we must learn the lesson or suffer from our neglect. The labor surplus has disappeared over night. An actual shortage ominously stares us in the face.

In a time of stress, like the harvest, surveys should be made to ascertain the places from which a few men could best be spared for a few days, and as to where they could be used to better advantage. The city and the country ought to co-operate for mutual advantage—they must do it if each fulfills its measure of obligation. And, as before remarked, the labor organizations and commercial associations are good places to begin.

China is sorry, but it is not re-armed with the soviet government.

## THE ROUND-UP



## PROHIBITION VINDICATED

Several times in recent months attention has been called to the marked decrease in the jail population in Alabama which has followed the enforcement of the dry laws in that state. Similar results have been observed in Tennessee and the work of the courts has been reduced in a corresponding ratio. In both states it has become apparent that reductions in the cost of maintaining and operating the courts are possible and practicable.

But still another gratifying thing is beginning to become manifest in Tennessee. Not only are there fewer minor offenses and jail sentences, but fewer convicts are being sent to the state penitentiary. A report of the state board of control to the governor, submitted a few days ago, shows quite a perceptible falling off in the numbers sent to prison in the first four months of the present year as compared with last.

Prohibition is its own best vindication. Wherever it is enforced, the results are the same, and wherever these results are not observed, it will be found that the law is not enforced. Its beneficial results are not only seen in the improvement of our morals and criminology, but in a widespread economic betterment. It has ceased to be a debatable issue.

## "EATING CROW"

Remarks the Manufacturers' Record:

"Government control of railroads has quickly demonstrated that the fight against higher rates was based on a false foundation."

"All the muckrakers in the land and all the political quacks who fought railroads will now be forced to eat crow. The time will come when they will also have to eat crow for their denunciation of all big business."

There is a contemptuous sort of fling about the foregoing that we do not exactly appreciate. It is manifestly an attempt to be smart attended with very poor success.

"The fight against higher rates was based" on the same foundation as the contention for higher rates—selfishness. The roads wanted as much as they could get for the service, and the public wanted the service as low as possible. The people discounted somewhat the necessity for higher rates because all railroad managers had not at all times dealt frankly and fairly with them.

The Record rather broadly intimates that the people don't know much anyway and that when the demands of the railroads or "big business" are made known, they should stand by and deliver. But the people do not relish allowing monopolies—big business if you prefer—the privilege of feeding upon them at will, and less so when they are constructed largely of water.

The people understand as well as the Manufacturers' Record that when the expenditures of the roads are increased by hundreds of millions the money must be recouped from somewhere. They are studying the situation seriously, but the Record's invitation to an understanding. There will probably always be a demand for better protection against monopoly than the generosity of big business.

A French general of artillery writing in the Yale Review before the present battle said: "The fighting men have sacrificed themselves with wonderful enthusiasm each time that the demand has been made upon them, and on every occasion the sacrifice has been barren. The lesson, at a cost of so many human lives, has not been lost, however. The republic at Verdun calmed the Germans. The check received before Lion calmed the French. The halt called in their advance in

## THE JARR FAMILY

By Roy L. McCardell

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"Can you make a getaway tonight?" asked John W. Rangle, cautiously. "We celebrate the success of our Red Cross drive with a big amateur pocket billiard tournament," at Sam Gruen's Broadway parlors.

"I don't see how I can, old man," said Mr. Jarr, who was heading home toward a can of bathtub enamel and some furniture polish. "The Red Cross drive has been a good excuse every night this week, but I think the home guard has had someone with keen ears on listening post."

"But your missus has been working for the drive, too. She knows we haven't been campaigning most of the other nights you were out."

"That's just it," replied Mr. Jarr. "She's been working for the fund, too, and it busted right into the middle of her brightening up the home for summer with paints and such. And now she made me go buy her this stuff and I got to stay home and brighten the corners where I am, as Billy Sunday says."

"Tonight's the night, old top, and you mustn't miss it," remarked Mr. Rangle. "I have everything squared for a getaway by having a grouch the last few days. There's a good plan, when you haven't any mazzina to purchase immunity—go home with a grouch and be so crusty, without being really unkind, that the wife will suggest you take a walk in the fresh air and get in better temper."

"Good idea, even though drawn from the wood," said Mr. Jarr, regarding Mr. Rangle's incoherent brow with admiration. "I'll try it on."

They parted, and the best of husbands entered his home, seemingly in the worst of spirits.

"These are the dad blamed things!" he growled, throwing down the can of paint so that it dented the dining room table.

"Well, you needn't act like a bear about it, and now you'll have to scrape that table and varnish it where you have marked it up."

Flanders and in their attempt upon Cambrai calmed the English. Better late than never. These hecatombs, however, would not have occurred if the world had been willing to admit that war was ceasing to be monopolized by the army, and that we ought not to expect a final victory from mere triumph on the field of battle. We wonder if he has changed his opinion. Despite what the enemy has done we are inclined still to the belief that he is right. The allied line has been bent, but not yet broken. The blows will likely become weaker and weaker. Then we shall strike back, and the tables will be turned. But, after all, political questions and the thought of the peoples back home are going to have most to do with the outcome of the war.

It is perhaps natural that the Charlotte Observer should feel elated over the invalidation of the federal child labor law, since the suit over it originated in Charlotte. But its observation that this law was "pushed through congress by the Keatlings" is a bit amusing. It is our recollection, while not quarrelling with the Observer over its merits, that there was somebody "higher up" behind this law. But the Observer is not the only American newspaper which offers indirectly such criticism as it might not wish to make directly.

The Peril to Paris.

As in the first days of the war, the question on the lips of all is, "Will they take Paris?" Yet now, as in the terrible August of 1914, the issue is more momentous than the fate of any city. What the Germans are trying to do, and nothing less would do them any good, is to crush the allied armies and compel other thought than "What a city to loot." If they fail in this, to occupy Paris or even to reduce it to a smouldering heap of ashes would not avert ultimate defeat. In 1914 it was touch and go, the French

"I got a headache," mumbled Mr. Jarr. "Stuck in that old office all day and then having to hustle to a department store before it closed and charge an army of women shock troop bargain raiders to get this paint."

"It won't hurt you to do a little shopping for me, or a little work around this home, either; the smell of fresh paint is good for a headache, too," remarked Mrs. Jarr.

"Not for me, it isn't! I tell you I need the fresh air," grumbled Mr. Jarr. "And I need the fresh air, too, but I will do without it this evening and so will you," said Mrs. Jarr. "But I am sorry I asked you to do anything for me. But now I've got everything off the kitchen shelves to paint them, we might as well do it."

"Why don't those Cackleberry girls, who have been visiting us, have some beaux in the naval reserve?" growled Mr. Jarr. "Jenkins, in our office, who lives in East Main, says there is a naval reserve cantonment near there, and the folks out that way entertain the boys and they paint things for them, for in the naval reserve the boys all learn to paint."

"That is all well enough for that Jenkins to say," replied Mrs. Jarr. "But even if the Cackleberry girls had any boys calling on them who belonged to the naval reserve, what good would that do me? All the painting those girls would be interested in would be to paint themselves."

Mr. Jarr now began to doubt the success of the grouch system suggested by his friend Rangle. It could seem there were two people who could encourage and augment a grouch, and Mrs. Jarr was one of them, so Mr. Jarr threw himself on the mercy of the court.

"I do need the fresh air, dearie!" he pleaded. "I wouldn't say it if I didn't."

"Very well, then," replied Mrs. Jarr. "You shall have all the fresh air you need. After dinner you can sit by the open window for an hour, and then you can paint the kitchen shelves for me, and the bedroom, too."

An hour or so later John W. Rangle passed through the street below, a free man on his way to the last pool tournament of the season. But Edward Jarr sat at the window, a prisoner of war, flying signals of distress.

They were prepared to fight on even if they had to fall still further, leaving Paris to the enemy. The fate of France transcends the fate of its capital; better the devastation of the queen of cities than the vassalage of the nation.

It is possible, though not yet probable, that this dire dilemma may recur. The Germans, it is true, are not yet within striking distance of Paris, but the great lunge on the Aisne front has brought the peril much closer. The nearest point, it is true, is not much nearer, but the city is girded for nearly a quarter circle with foes about fifty miles away, and yesterday's gains between the Oise and the Marne brought them even nearer at some points. Presumably the advance in this quarter will soon be checked, but another great drive on the sixty-mile front between Montdidier and the Marne, if as successful as the drives already made, would bring the foe to the very gates of the city.

Near is not halfway, says the Chinese proverb, and the way in which the Germans have been held up at Verdun and again at Amiens gives confidence that the French will keep Paris, or what is left of it. But just there is the more immediate peril to the city, inspiring gloomy forebodings for the loveless of Paris. When Huchner visited England after Waterloo the sight of London inspired in the old Prussian general no other thought than "What a city to loot."

The breed has changed little in a century, and the first thought of the Germans in making a run that would shoot seventy-six miles was to bombard Paris. Now Rhine has fired we have seen, if the Germans get within ordinary cannon range of Paris its ruin is all too probable. Nor would the Germans hesitate a moment if they should get near enough to Paris to drop the city with deadly gases for the wholesale asphyxiation of the people.

Thus the fate of Paris gives quite ground enough for anxiety, even though we recognize that this issue, like the fate of Venice, similarly exposed to peril, is subordinate to the great cause for which the allies are fighting. There is no way to punish the enemy if they should do this atrocious thing. To raise Berlin to the ground, if the allies were capable of that, would be a poor vengeance. But vengeance would not restore Paris, and it may still be hoped that the vandals who destroyed Louvain and Rheims can be kept at a distance.

## TO THE EDITOR

(Communications in this department represent the views of the writers. All matters of public interest may be discussed briefly.)

## Double Standard of Morals.

Editor The News:

Having returned to Chattanooga after a prolonged absence I find the city and federal authorities struggling with the old, old question—immoral women—which, as usual in war, is very much in evidence. I wish to ask through The News if it be possible there is a law in Chattanooga under which an immoral woman can be sent to prison for twelve months—less a bribe from the partner of her guilt be let off with a very light, if any, penalty?

History gives us many instances of such laws and even worse ones, but we will have to go very far back to find them in civilized countries. But it seems beyond belief that in this day and generation men would dare enact a law so different in its penalty as regards men and women. And what seems equally unbelievable is that the women of Chattanooga—so far as I can learn—have made no protest; a few of them accepting the law, if there really is such a law, by trying to relieve the suffering of our wayward sisters during their year of imprisonment.

We all know that society makes an outcast of an erring woman—or even a suspected one—then, blandly smiling on the man, beckons him to its fold that he may choose a bribe from its innocent daughters, to whom and her children he can hand down the results of his wild oats.

But to pass a law to that effect! Again, I say, is that conceivable! Again, I say, is that conceivable!

BUT L. DRAKE MCLUNG.

519 Lookout street.

## Confederates Ready to Help.

Editor The News:

After reading the murderous, death-dealing blows and destruction of our ships on our own coast by the Huns, my blood began to boil and I am ready and willing to shoulder my musket and march to our Mexican border line, take the place of an able-bodied soldier and let him go to France and help whip the Kaiser.

More than four-score years have passed over my head. I am stiff in my joints, but I can stand guard, pull a trigger or thrust a bayonet on the Mexican border line to let an able-bodied man go to France and teach the Huns that God made all men free and all nations to worship God, and not any king or ruler.

America must lead in the freedom of the whole world. There are many old Confederates who would join a company to guard our border line. All they would ask would be transportation to points where they would be needed. We know how to load and shoot, and, if necessary, use the bayonet. Our limbs are too stiff to run, but we are ready to help. God rules and He will help us as we quit the worship of mammon. Let fashion and profiteering cease, or we will go into captivity probably for more than seventy years.

W. G. ALLEN.

Dayton, Tenn., June 4, 1918.

## MR. BAKER AND THE FLAG

His Hat Really Was Off When the Colors Went By.

(Washington Letter to Philadelphia Public Ledger.)

Secretary of War Baker displayed the other day an album of photographs taken on his tour of inspection in France. He related to a group of correspondents little incidents about almost every photograph.

When the secretary turned the page to the picture of himself, Gen. Pershing and other staff officers reviewing a regimental parade, he smiled. Pointing to the picture he said:

"I am afraid that photograph is to bring a great national scandal down on my head. It appears that I am standing with my hat on while the national colors are passing. I suppose I will hear a lot about that picture."

Ralph Hayes, Mr. Baker's secretary, interrupted to say: "You are hearing it already, Mr. Secretary. We have a number of letters on it."

Secretary Baker explained the photo as being due to the angle from which it was taken.

"It would appear from the picture," he said, "that the colors are passing. In reality they are just approaching our party. The officers have just started to salute, and a second later I had started to remove my hat."

In further explanation of the camera's deception, Secretary Baker said to another reporter which showed the colors approaching, while he had his hat off, none of the officers being at salute.

"The pictures do not tell the full truth," he added, "but I anticipate difficulty in explaining the incident."

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